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Preparatory Meeting of the Southern Cone
for the World Summit on Sustainable Development
(Johannesburg, South Africa, 2002)

Santiago, Chile, 14-15 June 2001

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE PREPARATORY MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN CONE FOR THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (Johannesburg, South Africa, 2002)

01-5-416

A. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

The Preparatory Meeting of the Southern Cone for the World Summit on Sustainable Development —as well as the other three subregional meetings planned for the Andean Area, the Caribbean islands and Mesoamerica— are part of the regional preparatory process for the World Summit which is to take place in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2002. This process will culminate in the Regional Preparatory Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, which will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 23 and 24 October 2001.

This regional preparatory process is taking place in accordance with the provisions contained in paragraph (f) of decision 8/1 of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, pursuant to chapter 38 of Agenda 21, resolution A/RES/55/199 of the United Nations General Assembly and decision 17 as adopted at the twelfth meeting of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean.

B. ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. Election of officers

The delegations shall elect a chairperson, two deputy chairpersons and a rapporteur to preside over the meeting.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The delegations shall have before them the following provisional agenda for adoption or amendment:

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. National strategies for sustainable development: progress and challenges
4. Socio-economic and environmental panorama of the Southern Cone
5. Consideration and debate on the special features of the Southern Cone and its contribution to a platform for the future of Latin America and the Caribbean in the area of sustainable development for presentation at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002)
6. Consideration and adoption of agreements

3. National strategies for sustainable development: progress and challenges

The delegation of each participating country will present a report on its main achievements in implementing its national strategy for sustainable development and on the challenges posed by this process.

4. Socio-economic and environmental panorama of the Southern Cone

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) will present a preliminary assessment of the situation with respect to sustainable development in the Southern Cone.

5. Consideration and debate on the special features of the Southern Cone and its contribution to a platform for the future of Latin America and the Caribbean in the area of sustainable development for presentation at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002)

It is hoped that the participating delegations will engage in a broad-ranging discussion of the prospects for progress towards sustainable development in the Southern Cone. Statements made in relation to items 3 and 4 of the agenda may serve to enhance this exchange of ideas and experiences.

6. Consideration and adoption of agreements

At the end of the meeting, the participants may decide to approve agreements reached during the discussions. The Chairperson of the meeting, with the support of its secretariat (ECLAC/UNEP) will subsequently present any such agreements at the Regional Preparatory Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 23 and 24 October 2001).